

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #84-8 Building Date: 18th c. early 19th,

1912

Building Name: Dr. Edgar Hurtt House

Location: 2308 Floral Park Road, Piscataway, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

The Dr. Edgar D. Hurtt house is a two-part frame gable-roofed dwelling which stands on a lot on the north side of the main road through the town of Piscataway; it consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with a one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing attached at its west gable end. The main block is three bays by two bays, with entrance in the central bay of the three-bay south facade. The entrance bay is sheltered by a one-story porch with ornamental brackets, balusters and benches. The main block is covered with German siding and has a wooden watertable. Windows are 1/1 with plain board surrounds; there is a shed roofed dormer centered in the south plane of the roof over the entrance. There are two chimneys, a rebuilt interior-brick chimney at the ridge at the east gable end, and a (parged) exterior brick stack located south of the ridge at the west gable end, now enclosed by the kitchen wing. The one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing is two bays by one bay with entrance in the west gable end. It is covered with random-width, beaded weatherboard siding. Windows are narrow 4/4 sashes with narrow board surrounds. The entire house rests on brick piers reinforced with concrete. The metal roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Significance:

The Hurtt house was the home and office for 60 years of Dr. Edgar Dewitt Hurtt. Dr. Hurtt graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore in 1854 and in that year began to practice medicine in the village of Piscataway. In 1857 he purchased from the Parker family this two-part house on Piscataway's main street, and for sixty years raised his large family and practiced medicine there. The west wing was used both as kitchen and surgery. In 1870 Dr. Hurtt was appointed surgeon to the Maryland National Guard, and assisted as surgeon at Fort Washington. At the time of his death in 1917 at the age of 87, he was reported to be the oldest practicing physician in Maryland. Construction details suggest that the first story of the main block of Dr. Hurtt's house dates from the eighteenth century; the kitchen wing was added during the first half of the nineteenth century. In 1912 Dr. Hurtt had the main block raised to its present full two-and-one-half stories. Restoration work was undertaken by the present owners, descendants of Dr. Hurtt, in the early 1980's. The house is significant in that it represents three centuries of consecutive construction. It is a local landmark as the house and office of one of Piscataway's best-known citizens. It is now a handsome and comfortable dwelling in what remains of the once-thriving commercial town of Piscataway.

Acreage: 1.47

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Dr. Edgar D. Hurtt House

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 2308 Floral Park Road (Maryland Route 223) ☐ not for publication

city, town Piscataway ☐ vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frank Donohoe, et al.

street & number 5612 Overlea Road telephone no.: 333-0880

city, town Bethesda state and zip code MD. 20816

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5754

street & number Main Street folio 104

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state MD. 20737

## 7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #84-8

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Dr. Edgar D. Hurtt house is a two-part frame gable-roofed dwelling which stands on a lot on the north side of Floral Park Road, the main road through the town of Piscataway. The house faces south toward the road, and consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block with a one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing attached at its west gable end.

The main block is three bays by two bays (ca. 37 by 23 feet), with entrance in the central bay of the three-bay main south facade. The entrance bay is sheltered by a one-story flat-roofed porch with ornamental (wooden) brackets, balusters and benches. The interior plan is composed of a central stairhall with two rooms on each side, the southerly being larger than the northerly; the two south parlors have plain wooden mantels. The main block is covered with German siding painted beige and has a wooden watertable. Windows are 1/1 with plain board surrounds; there is a shed roofed dormer centered in the south plane of the roof over the entrance. There are two chimneys, a rebuilt interior-brick chimney at the ridge at the east gable end, and a (parged) exterior brick stack located south of the ridge at the west gable end, now enclosed by the kitchen wing. Floor joists are heavy hand-hewn timbers with peg holes on top, indicating reuse.

The one-and-one-half-story kitchen wing is two bays by one bay (ca. 20 by 15 feet) with entrance in the center of the west gable end. The wing consists of one large kitchen room, with a loft over it, reached by a boxed staircase in the southwest corner. In the loft, pegged half-lapped rafter joints are visible, as well as wide circular-sawn roof decking boards. The kitchen wing is covered with random-width, beaded weatherboard siding. Windows are narrow 4/4 sashes with narrow board surrounds. The heavy timber framing of the wing is reportedly filled with brick nogging.

The entire two-part house rests on brick piers reinforced with concrete. The metal roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

A photograph in the possession of the owners shows the house before 1912. The main block was then one-and-one-half stories high, with a slightly higher roofline than the kitchen wing. In 1912 the main block was raised to two-and one-half stories, and the Victorian porch was retained.

To the west of the house stands a twentieth century frame garage structure. The smoke house which stood north of the house was destroyed in recent years. The lot formerly contained also a chicken house and barn. Behind the Hurtt lot, adjoining it on the north, is the St. Mary's Catholic Church property.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #84-8

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

Specific dates 18th c., 19th c., 1912 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Edgar Hurtt house was the home and office for 60 years of Dr. Edgar Dewitt Hurtt. Dr. Hurtt graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore in 1854; in that year he married and began to practice medicine in the village of Piscataway. In 1857 he purchased from the Parker family this two-part house on Piscataway's main street, and for sixty years raised his large family and practiced medicine there. The west wing was used both as kitchen and as surgery. In 1870 Dr. Hurtt was appointed surgeon to the Maryland National Guard, and in addition to his local practice assisted as surgeon at Fort Washington. At the time of his death in 1917 at the age of 87, he was reported to be the oldest practicing physician in Maryland. His house in Piscataway remains in the possession of his family to this day.<sup>1</sup>

Construction details suggest that the first story of the main block of Dr. Hurtt's house dates from the eighteenth century; the kitchen wing was added during the first half of the nineteenth century. A small Victorian porch was built onto the main block late in that century. In 1912 Dr. Hurtt had the main block raised to its present full two-and-one-half stories. Restoration work was undertaken by the present owners (descendants of Dr. Hurtt) in the early 1980's.<sup>2</sup>

The house is significant in that it represents three centuries of consecutive construction. It is a local landmark as the house and office of one of Piscataway's best-known citizens. It is now a handsome and comfortable dwelling in what remains of the once-thriving commercial town of Piscataway.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> Prince George's County Deeds CSM#1:547; #5754:104; Hurtt family papers, including obituaries of Dr. Hurtt, October 1917, and general orders for Dr. Hurtt as assistant surgeon of Maryland National Guard, 1870.

<sup>2</sup> Interview with members of Hurtt-Donohoe family, March 1985; pre-1912 photograph in possession of family. MHT Inventory form, Piscataway Village, Donna Ware, September 1983.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #84-8

See notes, Item #8  
See Chain of Title

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.47 ac. TM 142, parcel 136Quadrangle name Piscataway Section D

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearlorganization Historic Preservation Commissiondate April 1985street & number c/o County Planning Division, M-NCPPC  
CABtelephone 952-3521city or town Upper Marlboro,state MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## Chain of Title

Dr. Edgar Hurtt House  
P.G. #84-8

#5754:104  
31 Aug. 1983  
Deed

Clarence Donohoe, Jr., Francis Donohoe, Mary Murray, Thomas Keyser and Frances Cary to Frank Donohoe and Mary D. Murray; 1.1623 acres on Floral Park Road, residue of lands conveyed to Edgar Hurtt by CSM #1:547, grantors being representatives of Hurtt descendants.

#19644  
1968  
Administration

Clara Hurtt Donohoe, deceased December 1968; District of Columbia will leaves real estate to be divided among heirs, including Mary D. Murray, Clarence Donohoe, Jr., and Francis X. Donohoe.

#7851  
1935  
Administration

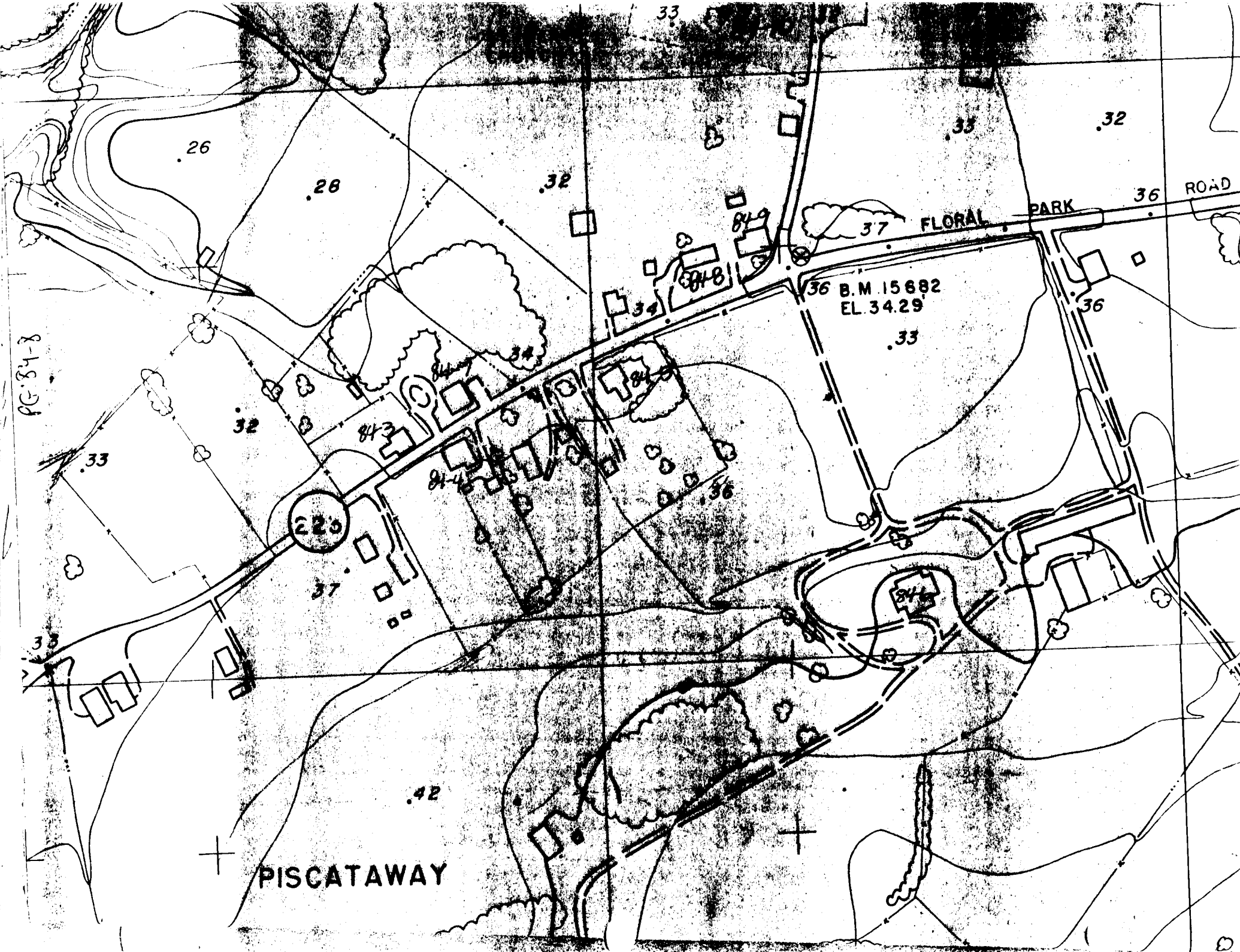
Harriett O. Hurtt, deceased January 1935; her surviving children were Clara Hurtt Donohoe, Daisy H. Edelen and Blanche Hurtt; owned 1/3 interest in real estate inherited from her husband, Dr. Edgar D. Hurtt, who died intestate, October 1917. Real estate included Hurtt family home in Piscataway.

CSM #1:547  
30 Jan. 1857  
Deed

Edward and Mary M. Hurtt to Edgar D. Hurtt, one house and lot in the village of Piscataway, bounded on south by street, on west by lot formerly occupied by Levi Gray and lot occupied by Charles Bealls, on north by lot formerly occupied by George Butler, and on east by lot owned and occupied by Philip Edelen.

CSM #1:548  
14 Jan. 1857  
Deed

Joseph M. and Olivia Parker to Edward Hurtt; for \$700, one house and lot in village of Piscataway, same described in CSM #1:547.

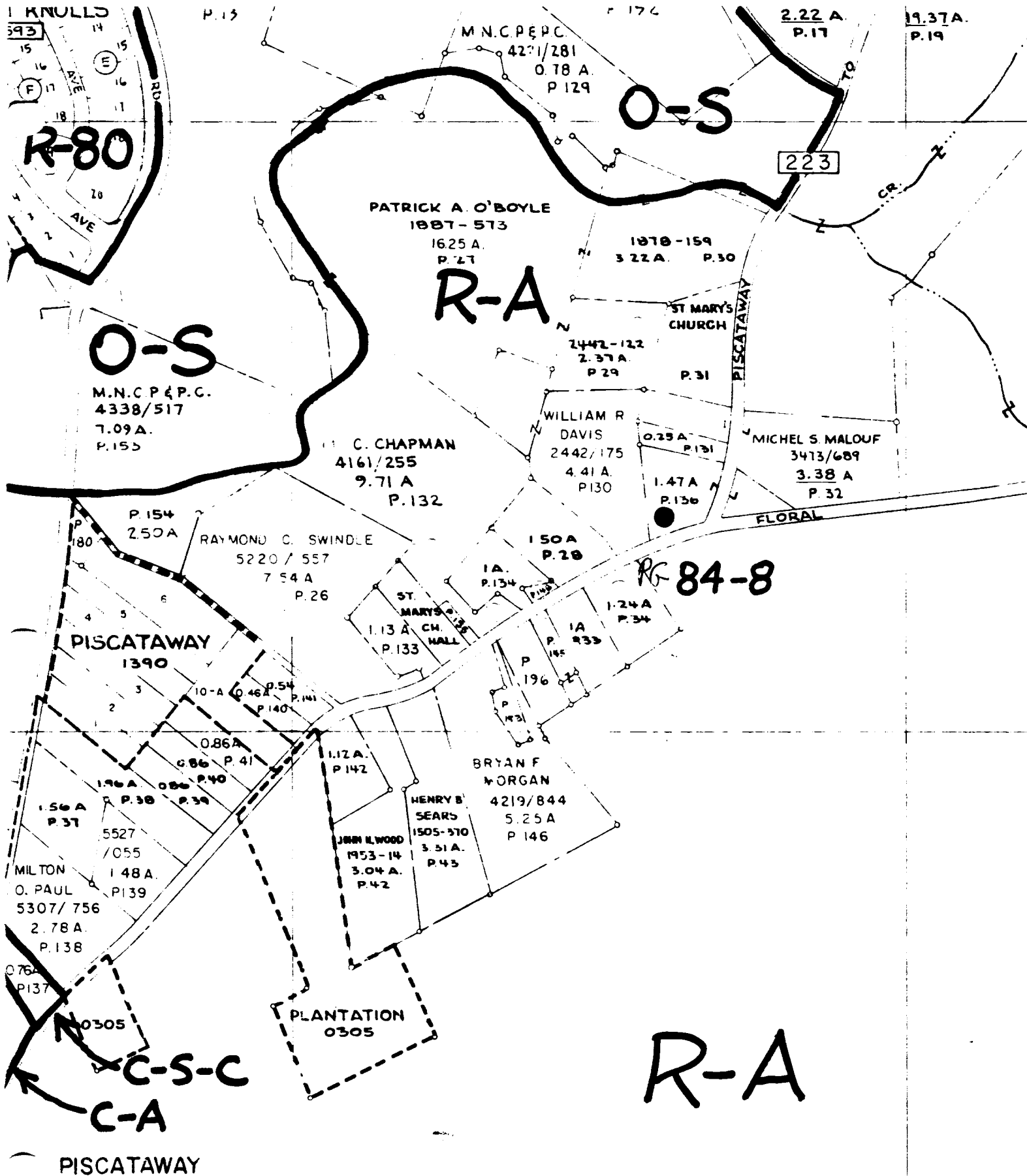


PG-84-8

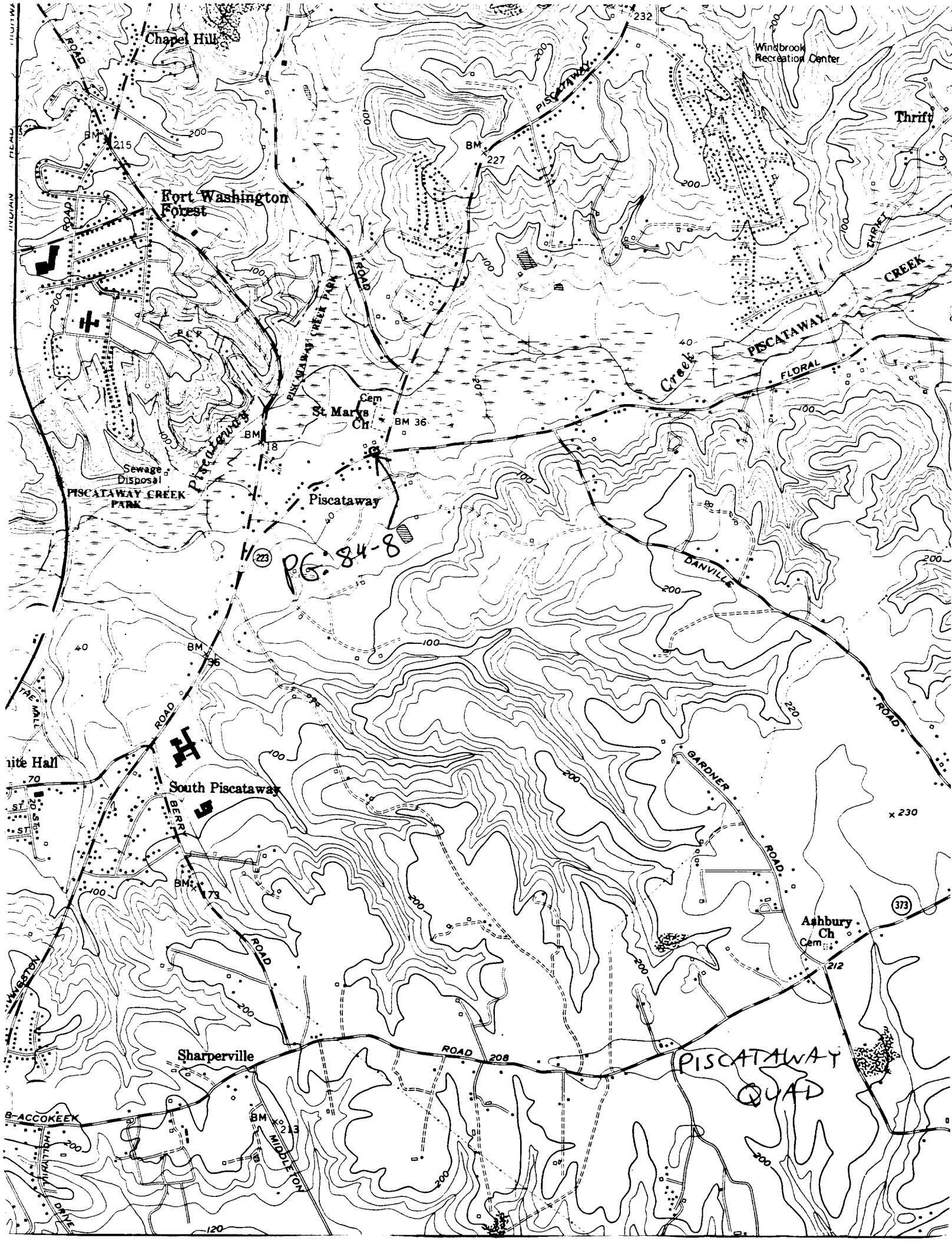
PISCATAWAY

B.M. 15682  
EL. 34.29

FLORAL PARK ROAD









P.G. #84-8

Piscataway Village Historic District

Dr. Hurtt house

Susan G. Pearl

October 1984

From southwest

Neg: Md. Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #84-8

Dr. Edgar Hurtt House  
Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

March 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #84-8

Dr. Edgar Hurtt House  
Prince George's County, MD.  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1985  
Northeast 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.





P.G.#84-8

Dr. Edgar Hurtt House  
Prince George's County, MD  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1985  
West elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #84-8

Dr. Edgar Hurtt House  
Prince George's County, MD.  
Susan G. Pearl  
March 1985  
Detail, west elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.